

del's book. We must commend the publishers for modestly hiding so many excellencies in a volume of convenient size and of three hundred pages.

The author tells us that his object "is to bring cases demonstrated at the clinic, into the general perspective of psychiatry, and to enable the student to fill up the gaps, which the clinic must necessarily omit in the limited time given."

However, it is not to the college student alone that the book is valuable, nor to the general practitioner. The specialist will find it a fruitful source of information. Indeed the last would evidence little interest in his subject were he not curious to know how Mendel divides the Psychoses or how he interprets Dementia Precox or what his opinion is on many a disputed point. There are too few authoritative treatises or text books on insanity to neglect any of them.

No man will agree with all that another says on Psychiatry. The tabulated facts have reached no final arrangement. The interpretation and classification of to-day may be discredited to-morrow. However, until better times come, we must have books which will lead us to a correct diagnosis in the majority of cases and we know of no other book which can more efficiently guide us than the one under review. The amount of material which the volume contains is most extensive—the definitions and descriptions are charmingly concise, yet adequate—the order and proportion admirable. In the Supplement is "a guide for the examination of one mentally diseased, and for the preparation of the clinical history," which is in keeping with the high character of the rest of the book.

We can not speak too well of this "The Text-Book of Psychiatry." We remember Mendel as a kindly man, a keen observer and a great teacher. He came into the world, he did his work well and his work is over.

M. L.

**A Study of the Human Blood-vessels in Health and Disease. A Supplement to "The Origin of Disease."** By Arthur V. Meigs, M. D., Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital. J. B. Lippincott Company, 1907.

This is a well printed and attractive book of about one hundred and thirty pages, the most striking feature of which is its collection of excellent pictures. It is not an exhaustive treatise, nor does it make such pretension, but is rather a collection of personal observations, and consequently reflects the author's personality to a much more marked extent than does the usual medical book. In this instance the reader is gainer by such a condition, as the frankly personal opinions have the tone of good sense, independence and scientific spirit, and withal a healthy rebelliousness toward taking things for granted simply because they have been taught generally. On no subject that forms the content of a chapter is the discussion either orderly or complete. The study is interesting and suggestive in every instance rather than conclusive, and while it can not serve as a text book, its frank outlook and creditable freedom from conventional shackles, and most of all its good pictures make it a valuable adjunct (or possibly antidote) to the regular text book. The subject of the blood-vessels is attacked in a narrow manner, the observations being almost solely of a purely histological nature. In doubtful places one misses entirely the evidence that embryology or experiment would bring. In this respect the main weakness of the book is apparent, and on this account it lacks conclusiveness.

The remarks on the capillaries are fresh, suggestive and valuable, but the section on new vessels falls far short on account of the total lack of the

strong light that embryology would throw on the subject; neither has the research been orderly or sufficient. The opinions advanced by the author are based merely on isolated histological pictures that he has stumbled upon and may be right or wrong.

Under the heading "The Blood-vessels in Disease," the opinion is expressed that there is no lesion of the blood-vessels peculiar to each of the processes, inflammation, tuberculosis or syphilis, and little import is attached to the usually recognized pathological entity, syphilitic endarteritis. Under the discussion of arteriosclerosis, it is suggested that apoplexy may often come from the perforation of round ulcers of the vessel wall, analogous to perforations of stomach and intestinal ulcers. This idea is rather striking, when one thinks of the frequency of miliary aneurisms in the vessels of the brain, in cases dying of cerebral apoplexy. In the same chapter, however, the frequency of chalky deposits and stiffening of the arterial walls is admitted. No etiological factor for the vascular ulcers is suggested, but the recent experimental production of gastric ulcers by feeding colon bacilli, suggests to the reviewer the possibility of an infectious origin of such lesions.

In the discussion of vessels of the heart there has been no addition made to our present knowledge. The well-known terminal character of the vessels and the fact that the muscle cells are penetrated by capillaries is reiterated and good illustrations are given. Great stress is laid on the author's observation that the intima of the vessels is often found greatly thickened even in young people.

The section on the lungs is quite barren of new facts and that on the spleen admittedly inconclusive, the bare statement being made that its blood-vessels are prone to endarteritis. In the main the book is valuable chiefly because it is rather suggestive. Its barrenness is due chiefly to its reflecting the barren state of the knowledge we have of the blood-vessels, rather than to any fault of its own.

C. B.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.** By Francis M. Pottenger, A. M. M. D., Monrovia, Cal. Wm. Wood & Co., 1908.

The work of Dr. Pottenger, which recently appeared from the press of Wm. Wood & Co., is, of the large number of books which have of late appeared on this subject, probably the most important one which has been written in the English language. From the wealth of clinical material over which he has command, he has culled a store-house of valuable information, which has been carefully compiled and arranged into a most practicable text-book. A description of the various chapters, many of which contain much original material, would be impossible within the brief limits of a review. Those on diagnosis and treatment are, however, of such importance as to demand more than passing notice.

The author has endeavored to give a full discussion of early and late diagnosis, and very thoroughly goes into an explanation of the cause of symptoms and the rationale of the physical signs. Methods of examination for the recognition of early signs are given the importance they deserve, which feature alone makes the work one of peculiar value, coming at a time when the necessity of earlier recognition of tuberculosis is so generally admitted.

In the discussion on the bacillus he describes the "splitter" or spore form, to which attention has been called by Spengler, and explains its staining characteristics. Methods of staining in order to differentiate between the human and bovine bacillus are also described, which is of the utmost importance, if recent observations in tuberculosis therapy shall have acceptance.

In the chapters on treatment, the importance of diet, rest and exercise, hygiene, fresh air, hydro-